

VIKING FLYER

Feb. 3, 2014



Uniform changes prompted by Airmen

by Staff Sgt. David Salanitri
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

1/23/2014 - WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Air Force updated the policy governing uniform wear Jan. 17, with a goal of not financially burdening Airmen.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark. A. Welsh III approved several updates to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Air Force Dress and Appearance, with many of the changes coming directly from Airmen.

During the past year, Welsh

prompted Airmen to make their voice heard through the Every Dollar Counts campaign, held last spring, and suggestions made directly to him during base visits or comments to the uniform survey board itself.

There are dozens of updates to the AFI. The 934th AW local policy for morale T-Shirts and patches is being developed and will be published soon.

Morale T-shirts/patches representing individual squadrons that were worn in the past to increase

unit pride are now authorized to wear on Fridays. Squadron color T-shirts may be worn with the ABU or flight suit when in-garrison or on-station during unit temporary duty assignments and contingency deployments. Shirts must be one color throughout the squadron, and may have only a small squadron patch over the left chest. Wing Commanders can authorize personnel from different units to wear the same color T-shirts to facilitate esprit de corps and team building.

Read the entire article [here](#)

Commentary

And the pendulum swings.....

By Col. Charles Hurry
934th Airlift Wing Inspector General

What do they want now? Over the last 30 years of my career I have found myself asking that question many times as each new uniform, deployment, PME, or EPR/OPR policy gets rolled out. I have heard it said that policies are like the weather, if you don't like it, just wait a little while and it'll change. The pendulum will swing back to the other side.

We have seen this throughout history. On the geopolitical level those who were our adversaries are now are our allies (Germany, Japan) conversely some former allies are no longer so friendly. (Iran) Interestingly, our best ally has sent forces to invade North America no less than twice (Great Britain) and Russia has changed from friend to

foe and back again so many times that I'm not even sure which column they fall under right now. And so the pendulum swings...

In the fashion industry, the

width of men's ties very predictably changes over time from narrow to wide and back to narrow again.

Read the entire article [here](#)

Purple Heart

Col. Todd McCubbin, 934th Airlift Wing commander, awards Tech. Sgt. Justin Voorhees, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron, the Purple Heart during the January Wing Commander's Call at the Minneapolis-St. Paul Air Reserve Station, Minn. (U.S. Air Force photo by Shannon McKay/Released)



934th AW news

934th Award winners

Congratulations to the 934th Airlift Wing's Civilians of the Year for 2013: Supervisory - **Mr. Matthew A. Russell**, 934th Logistics Readiness Squadron. Non-Supervisory - **Mr. Robert Doyle**, 934th Security Forces Squadron.

Capt. Ethan Bryant - Has been named Company Grade Officer of the year and is the Wing's CGO nominee from the wing for the Reserve Officers Association.

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Tax Service

Due to AARP no longer sponsoring volunteers at this site, Airman & Family Readiness Office will not provide tax preparation for military members and retirees this year.

Military One Source has a free service for military members to use.

AFR will provide a roster of locations in the Twin Cities area once it is received from AARP.



Air Force Reserve news



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Craig Ridener, 434th Air Refueling Wing recruiter, talks with U.S. Army National Guard Pvt. 1st Class Mitchell Wooten, about opportunities in the Air Force Reserve. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark R. W. Orders-Woempner)

AF Reserve now recruiting recruiters

by **Tech. Sgt. Mark R. W. Orders-Woempner**
434th ARW Public Affairs

1/28/2014 - GRISSOM AIR RESERVE BASE, Ind. -- Tasked with filling the ranks, recruiters are at the start of all Airmen's careers, and now they're looking to pull from those ranks to fill their own.

The Air Force Reserve Command is now actively seeking Airmen who want to serve as full-time recruiters on active-guard and reserve tours, said Senior Master Sgt. Robert Mielke, 434th Air Refueling

Wing recruiting flight chief.

"Recruit the Recruiter is a program within AFRC where we're looking for good Airmen from within the wings who want to fulfill this unique role," Mielke explained. "We're trying to get as many people as we can because we have training opportunities coming up."

The recruiters are looking to hire highly-motivated staff sergeants, technical sergeants and master sergeants.

Read the entire article [Here](#)

Air Force news



Deborah Lee James, (center) the 23rd secretary of the Air Force, is congratulated by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel (left) and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. (U.S. Air Force photo/Jim Varhegyi)

James sworn in as new AF secretary

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Deborah Lee James, the 23rd secretary of the Air Force, was ceremoniously sworn in by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel at the Pentagon Jan 24.

Hagel called James well suited to lead the Air Force as the nation faces an increasingly uncertain security environment.

"The rise of emerging powers, dangerous rogue states, affiliated terrorist organizations, and the proliferation of technology will mean

more contested and complicated domains, from space to cyber to sea lanes," he said.

Hagel noted that James has spent the last 30 years serving on the staff of the House Armed Services Committee, at the Pentagon, where she served three secretaries of defense, as well as in the private sector. Her approach, he said, "has been to understand the problems and opportunities, listen carefully, and then act decisively."

Read the entire article [Here](#)